



Cabinet Member Report for Community Engagement

Northampton Borough Council

Monday 6th June, 2016

Councillor Community Fund

Since the beginning of April 2016, 23 Projects, totalling £10,172 have been supported through the Cllr Community Fund.

Partnership Support

From the 42 applications received, 29 Organisations have received funding through the Partnership Grant for 2016/17 and 2 organisations through the small grants pot. 12 of these are new applications and are organisations that were not funded last year. The organisations funded include:

Manna House	10,000
Lowdown	18,800
Hope Centre	25,000
Community Spaces Northampton	20,000
Groundworks	7,250
Northamptonshire Rights and Equality Council	24,000
Spencer Contact	13,600
School & Street Pastors	9,000
Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire	10,000
Unity Leisure	12,650
Homestart	18,000
The Good Loaf	11,800
Doddridge	10,700
Age UK	50,000
Tools for Self-Reliance	10,000
Womens Aid	25,000
Relate	10,000
Kids Aid	5,100
Shopmobility	8,000
Dostiyo	6,000
Family Support Link	10,000
Association of Northamptonshire Supplementary Schools	15,000
Blackthorn Community Centre	6,100
Beanstalk	9,000
C2C Social Action	5,000
Door to Door	35,000
Indian Hindu Welfare Organisation	5,000
Men in Sheds	5,000
Pearls of Peace	5,000

Community Centres

Annual review for each of the centres has now been carried out, as well as a mapping/scoping exercise, to establish where there are opportunities for the centre organisations to work in collaboration. The centres are looking to identify savings and improve sustainability.

Forums

The Women's Forum, in partnership with BME SRP and the Umbrella Fair, delivered a 'Happy Day' event at the Racecourse on Saturday 2nd June 10.30-3pm. The day was developed through the Forum and supported by more than 24 organisations, primarily support services for women. Happy Day was held during half-term, targeting families. The aim of the day was to encourage a healthy and happy lifestyle. The day involved exercise workshops, support services, children's activities and sports sessions.

17th May, marked International Day Against Homophobia. A small civic ceremony was held in the courtyard at the Guildhall, supported by the LGBTQ forum.

Events

The council delivered the Cobblers Victory Parade and Civic Reception on Sunday 8th May. The parade commenced at Sixfields went down Weedon Road into Gold Street around All Saints onto the Market Square and finished outside the Guildhall. The event attracted thousands of fans and well-wishers into the town who showed their support for the Team.

The council provided support to the District Scouts who delivered the St Georges Day Parade and celebrations in the town centre and Becketts Park (12 April), Food Festival on Becketts Park (14th & 15th May), Beer Festival on Delapre Park (19th – 22nd May), Speedy Cup on the Racecourse (4 June), Pretty Muddy (4 June) and Race for Life (5 June) on Abington Park.

The Bands in the Park season on Abington Park Bandstand has been well supported and continues every Sunday until the middle of September.

Looking forward the council is working with partners on the Carnival Parade from the Racecourse and around the town centre (11 June); Music Festival in the town centre (19 June); Women's Cycling Tour 2016 in the town centre (19 June); Armed Forces Day in the town centre (25 June); NN4Eight on Far Cotton Rec (2 July); Town Festival on the Racecourse (2nd & 3rd July); Mass Cycle Event starting from Delapre Park (17th July); Fun Colour Run on Abington Park (24th July) and Umbrella Fair on the Racecourse (20th & 21st August).

Planning for Women's Cycle Race, Mass Cycle Ride, Fireworks, Christmas are ongoing.

Culture & Heritage

May saw two new exhibitions showcasing at Northampton Museum & Art Gallery. 'Looking in Wonderland' – a selection of the best of Sir John Tenniel's illustrations to Lewis Carroll's two Alice books – Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865) and Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There (1872). 'Animal Tales' is a family friendly exhibition about animals of all shapes and sizes, how they live and the stories that are told about them. At Abington Park Museum, 'Network Arts Summer Show' opened showcasing a range of quality contemporary and traditional art from emerging and established artists in the region.

A Spring Food & Craft Fair at Abington Park Museum attracted over 3,000 visitors and feedback was exceptionally positive. 'Moving Heaven & Earth, Capability Brown's Gift of Landscape' took place at Abington Park Museum in May.

Half term workshops for children were held at Northampton Museum & Art Gallery including 'Zoo in the Museum' led by experts from Hamerton Zoo Park along with a workshop led by the Friends of Northampton Castle and leather stamping by members of the Museum of Leathercraft. An Alice in Wonderland Shoe Makeover workshop for adults was fully booked in May. A Mad Hatter's Tea Party was held at Abington Park Museum in early June.

A series of Art History Lectures exploring the cultural context of Lewis Carroll's famous creation through works in the collection of the Northampton Museum & Art Gallery took place during May and early June.

Feedback from the loan of the Lady Mary Stanhope shoes to the Samuel Pepy's exhibition at National Maritime Museum confirmed 66,613 visitors walked through the doors.

Customer Services

Partnership working is essential ensuring we are all working together to help our vulnerable customers visiting the OSS. We are pleased to confirm that NPH's Rehousing and Support Team are available three days a week within the OSS. This together with the co-location of CLS, CAB and the Credit Union ensures that we have a One Stop Shop to support our vulnerable customers and prevent debt and homelessness. Our partners are working well together, referring to one another ensuring customers are seen by the right agency as quickly as possible.

We supported Dementia Awareness Week during May with a display in the One Stop Shop made up of a banner of hands on which staff and customers expressed their messages to Dementia.

Councillor Anna King
Cabinet Member for Community Engagement